

10/784,553

Amendments to the Abstract of the Disclosure:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended Abstract of the Disclosure:

~~There are disclosed an~~ An apparatus and a process for purification of an acrylic acid family. The apparatus is an apparatus for distillation purification of the acrylic acid family encompassing acrylic acid and its esters, and ~~comprises~~ includes: a distillation column 10 to which a liquid containing the acrylic acid family is supplied, and from the column top of which a vapor is retrieved, and from the column bottom of which a liquid is retrieved; a condenser 20 which is connected to the column top side of the distillation column 10, and to which the vapor having been retrieved from the distillation column is supplied, and which condenses the supplied vapor and then refluxes a portion of the resultant condensate to the distillation column 10, and from which the residual condensate is retrieved; and a reboiler 30 which is connected to the column bottom side of the distillation column 10, and to which the liquid in the distillation column 10 is supplied, and which heat-boils the supplied liquid and then returns it to the distillation column 10; wherein the reboiler 30 is set in a number of at least two in parallel to the distillation column 10. The process uses the above apparatus.